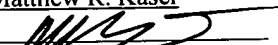




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Printed: Matthew R. Kaser  
Signed: 

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re U.S. National Phase Application of:**  
BRAVEN, Helen and KEAY, Russell

**Title:** NUCLEIC ACID PROBES, THEIR SYNTHESIS AND USE

Serial No.:	10/506,958
Filing Date:	2 <sup>nd</sup> May, 2005
Examiner:	POHNERT, STEVEN C.
Group Art Unit:	1634

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Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Dear Sir:

This is a Response to the Final Office action, mailed 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009. Applicants respectfully petition for a two (2)-month extension of time within which to respond to the Office action dated May 21, 2009, such extension allowing the undersigned until October 21, 2009 to respond.

This response is accompanied by a simultaneously-filed request for continued examination (RCE) under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.114.

Please enter the following amendments.